

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski comprising an elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon, the at least one support element being spaced from the at least one upper cord element along an entire length thereof in a direction parallel to the longitudinal direction of the ski body.

2. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the at least one upper cord element comprises at least one slightly curved rod which spans the ski body in the manner of an arc.

3. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the at least one upper cord element is formed from a plurality of slightly curved rods which are arranged adjacent to one another spanning the ski body.

4. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the rod is arranged relative to the ski body in such a manner that

the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis is oriented perpendicular to the running surface of the ski body.

5. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the rod is arranged relative to the ski body in such a manner that the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis is inclined toward the running surface of the ski body.

6. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 5, characterised in that at least two rods are arranged in such a manner that the planes defined by their curved longitudinal axes abut one another above the ski.

7. (Currently Amended) Alpine ski ~~according to claim 3,~~ comprising an elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one upper cord element formed from a plurality of slightly curved rods which are arranged adjacent to one another spanning the ski body, the at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon.

wherein characterised in that between the rods arranged on both sides of the middle of the ski body a spacing is provided into which the apex regions of the rods can move under the effect of pressure forces.

8. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the mounting for fastening the binding is connected to the ski body such that the elastic deformability of the ski body is not affected.

9. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the mounting comprises at least two supports arranged longitudinally at a distance from one another, one support being rigidly connected and the other support longitudinally displacably connected to the ski body.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Alpine ski according to claim 1, comprising an elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon,~~

wherein characterised in that the mounting for fastening the binding comprises a plate having a lower face and extending over the at least one upper cord element and carries the at least one support element on the lower face for supporting the at least one upper cord element.

11. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 10, characterised in that the at least one support element comprises a spring compressible by the at least one upper cord element.

12. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 10, characterised in that the at least one support element comprises a bearing element with a sliding surface on which the at least one upper cord element slides transversely to its longitudinal direction.

13. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the support of at least one end of the at least one upper cord element or of a rod forming it is adjustable in the longitudinal direction of the ski body.

14. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that at a distance from the ends of the rod fastened to the ski body at least one guide element is provided, in which the rod is longitudinally displaceably guided.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Alpine ski according to claim 14, comprising an~~  
elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding  
arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one  
upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the  
ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having

ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, the at least one upper cord element comprising at least one slightly curved rod which spans the ski body in the manner of an arc, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon,

wherein at a distance from the ends of the rod fastened to the ski body at least one guide element is provided, in which the rod is longitudinally displacably guided, characterised in that the guide element is being formed in such a manner that it allows a limited transverse movement of the rod in the direction of the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis.

16. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that damping elements acting on the at least one upper cord element are provided which dampen the compensating movements of the at least one upper cord element occurring under compressive stress.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Alpine ski according to claim 1,~~ comprising an elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being

movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon,

wherein characterised in that on an upper face of the ski body a traction element is arranged which extends in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and having ends fastened to end regions of the ski body, the ski body comprising a support protruding from the ski body in at least one position between the ends of the traction element, on which support the tensioned traction element rests.

18. (Previously Presented) Alpine ski according to claim 1, characterised in that the ends of the at least one upper cord element are connected to the ski body by a connection transmitting pressure forces and tensile forces and that the at least one upper cord element is constructed and/or mounted such that under the impact of tensile forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically.

19. (New) Alpine ski comprising an elongate ski body forming a running surface, a mounting for fastening a binding arranged on an upper face of the ski body and rigidly connected therewith, at least one upper cord element attached to the ski body extending in the longitudinal direction of the ski body and receiving pressure forces, the at least one upper cord element having ends thereof supported on the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being movably mounted relative to the ski body between ends of the ski body and constructed such that under the impact of

pressure forces the at least one upper cord element endeavours to deform elastically by flexural buckling and to carry out a deflection movement relative to the ski body, the at least one upper cord element being formed from a plurality of slightly curved rods which are arranged adjacent to one another spanning the ski body, and at least one support element provided on the mounting which counteracts the deflection movement of the at least one upper cord element by exerting a counter force thereon,

wherein at a distance from the ends of the rod fastened to the ski body at least one guide element is provided, in which the rod is longitudinally displacably guided, the guide element being formed in such a manner that it allows a limited transverse movement of the rod in the direction of the plane defined by its curved longitudinal axis.